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Happy hikers
Irv Handler and David Northcote led 14 hikers on a visit to Icicle Alley in the Frost Centre as part of the 2024 Winter edition of the Hike Haliburton Festival. See more Hike Haliburton photos on page 2. /IRV HANDLER Special to the *Echo*

HHHS looks forward to the future

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Staff Reporter

With one full month of 2024 under our belt, the goals and resolutions of the coming year have started to come into focus. This is true for the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), with Veronica Nelson at the helm.

Nelson stepped into the role of interim CEO for HHHS in June of last year, before transitioning to the permanent position later in the year. She had assumed the heavy role shortly after the closure of the Minden emergency department (ED), but has dedicated herself to establishing the lines of communication between HHHS and the community, and trying to move forward.

"My mantra is to always practice transparent communications," she said, "and these communications need to be consistent and ongoing. We want to continue the conversation."

Upon Nelson stepping into the role, HHHS began offering community town halls to present citizens with the opportunity to ask questions and delve into the realities of healthcare in Ontario.

What was noted repeatedly in these sessions was that we are not alone in wading through the waters of a healthcare crisis in Ontario. "In this post-COVID recovery, there were other changes occurring in the healthcare system. Some good, some bad," she said. "Right now, there are more options for people than there were before."

Some of these options include shifts in virtual physician engagement, pharmacist-led prescriptions, and a proactive approach to healthcare. Funding and priorities from provincial directives changed during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in staff trying to pivot in their understanding of care. Alterations were put in place as a result of changing on the fly and the degrees of uncertainty during the tumultuous time in healthcare, but have settled into something resembling stability over the years. Slowly but surely.

The community sessions will continue in the new year, said Nelson, who will kick off their Winter Engagement Sessions on Feb. 28. These sessions will feature key speakers, who will focus on the overall objective to meet and understand healthcare in the Highlands. All information on these sessions are available at www.hhhs.ca.

Nelson also noted that ED wait times official reporting will begin April 1, with all relevant data available on the ministry website shortly thereafter.

Another venue in which Nelson and her team are keeping the lines of communication open with the community is by welcoming all to join the HHHS board of directors. The applications for the board will be posted on the HHHS website in early February, and all pertinent criteria will be built into that application. "There are limited exclusions to anyone trying to join the board," said Nelson, noting that it is a skills-based board, with a three year term.

At minimum, board members must be able to commit to at least ten hours per month, as many members are present on both the board, as well as a committee of HHHS.

While changes are being made to the overall image of HHHS to the commu-

see CEO on page 3

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Safety in the snow

Corina Hall-Mansfield and the 1129 Haliburton Army Cadets taught a group of hikers about different types of emergency shelters and actions to take when lost during Operation Get Home Safe, part of the Hike Haliburton Winter Edition on Sunday, Feb. 9 at Glebe Park. /TIM YANO Special to the *Echo*

Arts council considers enhanced fundraising

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Haliburton Highlands arts community is vibrant.

That was the overall sentiment throughout the Arts Council of Haliburton Highlands' annual general meeting Jan. 30.

"We have been fortunate to retain most of our members from year to year and revenue from membership fees remain steady," Pat Martin said. "However, one of the observations in the fundraising report is that membership fees have not increased in many years and yet our expenses have increased."

Membership fees were increased this year to help cover the shortfall.

Community donations have decreased throughout the year. The council will consider an enhanced fundraising and donor campaign.

The council has been working diligently to provide opportunities for membership to become involved in the community, said Scott Walling, the council's chairperson.

"Our members have been busy creating, getting messy, and participating in our vibrant community," he said.

The council may look into the possibility of venturing into cyberspace. The idea to move the annual directory online as opposed to the traditional hardcopy was batted about during the meeting.

Aside from fears of an advertising revenue drop by having an online directory, members felt the published magazine format was aesthetically pleasing and

"It isn't necessarily the tangibles that we might get from this as much as the feel," said one member who took part in the online discussion. "It's professional looking. It's classy looking."

She said there are some non-tangible benefits to having the publication such as its earning potential through advertising.

Other attraction to having an online directory is that changes can be immediately made and there could be many more active links than pages in a publication.

It was decided it's an issue worth investigating and worthy of more discussion by the board of directors.

The Art in Public Spaces program brings the work of local artists into the community, Martin said.

Art is made to be accessible to the greater community. And at least half of the visual artists featured in the directory and shown and their work through the public spaces program. Many of them have also sold some pieces.

While the program was hindered by the COVID-19 pandemic, Martin said it is beginning its return to pre-pandemic levels.

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CEO says open communication is key

from page 1

nity, Nelson and her team noted that there is still work to be done in terms of recruitment. "We're not out of the woods yet for staffing," she said. Since June of 2023, HHHS has recruited six registered nurses, five registered practical nurses, and three personal support workers (and four casual). They have also bulked up their administrative team and support staff.

"The vibe is different, it's fresher, and we make sure we do staff recognition regularly. Our staff are so deserving of recognition," Nelson said. On Feb. 2, HHHS have their official staff recognition, where they will celebrate 181 of their staff in an event to catch-up on the years between 2018 to 2022, when these timely acknowledgements took a hiatus. "I am so excited to celebrate all these people who truly deserve to be celebrated in so many ways," she said.

While Nelson and her team strive to make HHHS a destination for physician and nurse recruitment, there are continued efforts going on behind the scenes. Jennifer Burns West, the VP of clinical and community programs, is heading to job fairs to try to encourage students to get involved, and she and Nelson are also working with the county physician recruiter, Wendy Welch, to explore options outside the box to bring medical professionals to the community.

Nelson also noted that by adding a CT machine and mammography resources to HHHS, this will entice more physicians to take Haliburton County into consideration for full-time roles. "These tools will change the way we do recruitment," said Nelson. "They will really put us on the map."

Overall, the team at HHHS are optimistic about the year ahead. While they recognize that 2023 was a trying year for many in the healthcare industry, they are hopeful that the year ahead will offer some positivity for everyone.

Between offering new programming for both staff and patients at HHHS, continuing conversations with the community, and building a baseline team who genuinely wants to be there, Nelson hopes to shift mindsets around HHHS, and continue growing together. "We have to work together," she said, "we have to be a part of the community, and if you ever have any questions, please, just ask."

Medeba rocks

Climbers of all ages headed to Medeba on Sunday, Jan. 28 for a night of indoor rock climbing. The next climb is on Feb. 11. No registration is required. /TIM YANO Special to the *Echo*

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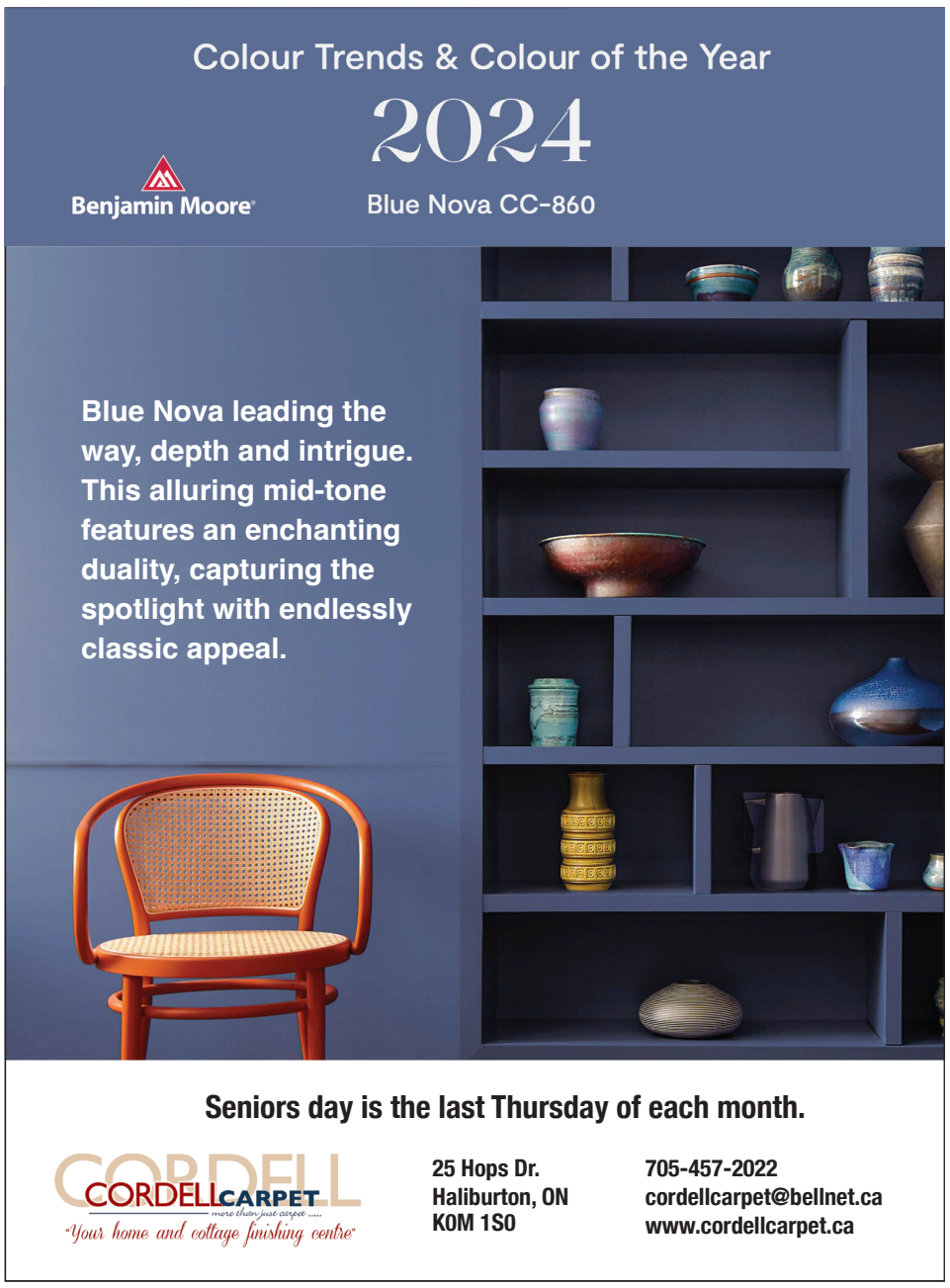
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Learning to love nature; offering outdoor skills to kids

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

Learning the basics of being outdoors isn't something reserved for backwoods campers and adventure enthusiasts anymore.

At Abbey Gardens, they believe that instilling basic skills for survival from a young age can boost and support kids' confidence, development, and growth.

That's why they've started offering their Naturally Kids Outdoor Skills programming, which kicked off the weekend of Jan. 27 and is running until May.

"These programs are great opportunities for kids to explore the natural world around them," said Ashley McAllister, the director of operations at Abbey Gardens. "We want to be able to give them the tools to gain confidence, and maybe even find some new hobbies and skills along the way."

The programs are led by outdoor enthusiast Rick Whitteker, who brings years of experience in teaching, guiding, and developing outdoor education programs at both Fleming College, as well as locally-based courses and training. "We wanted to develop programs for kids that would give them that life experience to keep them safe in whatever they're doing," he said.

Each week is split into a different theme, with everything from trailside cooking on a stick stove, to tarps, knots, and making cordage. While Whitteker developed the programming with actual outdoor skill development in mind, he also incorporated the wonder and imagination of kids by including courses on geocaching, photo scavenger hunts, and compass usage; all while teaching participants how to survive in the wilderness.

"I think we have a great facility for this type of programming at Abbey Gardens," said McAllister. "There are tons of trails and mapped out regions of the property, but also lots of wooded areas that can offer the kids the feeling of really exploring the backwoods."

The Naturally Kids Outdoor Skills programming is designed to teach kids the basics of outdoor navigation and survival, to allow them to feel safe and confident in the wilderness. /Photo submitted

Parents can register their kids for all four sessions, which occur once a month until the spring, or they can hand-pick a specific session based on the interest of the child. The sessions run once a month until May, with the exception of a March session due to conflicts with March Break programming.

For Whitteker, offering programming for kids between the ages of 8 to 12 is an opportunity to continue to share his love of the outdoors, and his passion for fostering an inclusive environment for people of all ages in the great outdoors.

"The reason I'm in this business is to try to keep people interested in being outside, and to learn and feel comfortable, even if they're just camping with their parents," he said. "If they have a few skills, then they'll feel a lot more comfortable. They'll feel ready."

For more information on the Naturally Kids Outdoor Skills programming, or to register for upcoming programming, visit www.abbeygardens.ca.

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Dysart increases building permit fees

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

It could get a little more expensive next month to build in Dysart.

But builders can take solace in knowing the municipality will still charge the lowest building permit fees among neighbouring communities inside and outside Haliburton County.

The proposed fee change only applies to the residential, other occupancies, and accessory buildings.

It's proposed that the residential fee be increase from $0.80 to $0.90 per square foot for 2024 and to $1.00 for 2025.

The fee for other occupancies could be increased from $0.80 to $0.90 per square foot for 2024 and to $1.00 in 2025.

And the permit to build an accessory building could rise from $0.60 to $0.70 per square foot in 2025.

The change is expected to increase revenue generated from building permit fees this year by $45,000. For 2025, revenue generated by the change is expected to increase by an additional $60,000.

Although 2024 may still carry a small deficit, funds would be transferred from the Building Permit Reserve to cover the shortfall so there will be no burden on the tax base.

A public meeting will be held regarding the proposed fee changes during council's regular scheduled meeting Feb. 27.

Karl Korpela, the township's chief building official, said there's no change to the bylaw itself. Only the fees have changed.

"Looking at the neighbouring municipalities, not just within Haliburton County but the ones neighbouring Haliburton County, you'll notice a big difference in the fees that the other municipalities are charging for building permits," Korpela said.

Haliburton County has typically been on the lower end of the scale for building permit fees, he said.

"Not that I'm trying to catch up with the other guys," he said. "We want to make sure the building department is paying for itself through building permit fees, and we're not being subsidized by the rest of the tax base for somebody getting a new cottage somewhere."

The work to settle the 2024 municipal operating and capital budget showed the Building Department that it can expect a deficit of as much as $79,161.

Increasing the cost of permits will offset that and shrink the hole in the purse.

The direct cost to administer and enforce the Building Code Act is $822,161. The expected revenue derived from fees without an increase is $743,000.

The last rise in permit fees was in January 2023 which increased building permit fees and decreased septic permit fees.

Although the Municipalities within Haliburton County are very similar in permit fees, the municipalities surrounding the county are significantly higher, Korpela said.

The increase to permit fees should bring the department to revenue neutrality by next year, he said.

Legion works toward full accessibilty

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Editor

One phase of the the Haliburton Legion's accessibility plan is complete, but support is needed to get the other off the ground.

The washrooms previously located in the Mountbatten Room in the downstairs level have been converted to a fully accessible single washroom.

They're now turning their focus to the biggest endeavour of their "Give Us a Lift" campaign, an elevator.

"Once it's all done, this building will be fully accessible, and it'll be one of the few in the county," said Mike Waller, Royal Canadian Legion branch 129's president. "We can then have everyone come down to the club room and enjoy any of the events we have down here, whether it's just to come in for a beer, or for live music or the meat draw."

With the added pressure of being required to meet government accessibility regulations by 2025, Waller said the building is also a designated emergency shelter and evacuation point for Extendicare.

"It's still up in the air, but we're hoping to have it done by late spring, early summer, barring any more hiccups," he said.

They were hoping to be able to use sinks already present in the bathroom, but the sink height did not meet accessibility standards.

"That put us a little over budget and took longer than expected to install a new sink," Waller said.

Additionally, they ran into some extra snags while working to move conduit in the ceiling.

Haliburton Legion branch 129 president Mike Waller and first vice president Chris Briggs cut the ribbon during the opening of the new accessible washroom in the building. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

"That added upwards of $15,000 to have it all moved," he said.

He noted a generous donation from Haliburton Rotary and other donors that's helped make a dent in added expenses.

"These are really big undertakings, and we're lucky that we've been able to work through COVID when a lot of Legions had to close because of it. We're lucky that we were able to sustain ourselves and continue on," he said.

Another way the Legion can be supported is through rentals of their space. They currently have four rooms available for rent for parties, events, and meetings.

The Haliburton branch also hopes to be able to purchase a back-up generator in the future.

Chris Briggs, the branch's first vice-president, said they're always accepting more volunteers to help with various projects, from painting to scheduling.

"Just like so many other non-profits, we're looking for volunteers. I know a lot of people may not think to volunteer here because of our membership, but a lot of our members are older. It's a big building and takes a lot to maintain," Briggs said.

Waller spoke on the benefits of individuals having a Legion membership.

"My reason is that I have family members that are war veterans. It's my way of giving back," he said. "Part of membership dues go to help our veterans with what they need, whether its housing, heating, medical assistance, food."

Those interested in volunteering can call the Legion office at 705-457-2571 and visit www.haliburtonlegion.com/donate to donate.

"This is such an important space in the community, and we can't wait for it to be fully accesible to everyone," Waller said.

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Volunteerism: What's the solution?

vivian collings

Editorial

WE'RE IN A volunteer crisis. It's happening here in Haliburton County and throughout the province.

Data from 2023 suggests that 65 per cent of not-for-profit organizations are lacking volunteers in the country.

Statistics Canada says volunteers 78 or older dedicate their time to help out twice as often as Gen Z and Millenials.

And honestly, it makes sense.

"The average age of the Ladies' Auxiliary is 80," said Haliburton Legion president Mike Waller. "We understand that if you're working 40 plus hours a week, you don't want to go out for another couple of hours at the end of the day."

And our Legions are just one example of this dynamic.

Retirees with assets and pensions are more likely to have the time and capacity to give back to the community they live in.

I wrote an editorial about a year ago on the same topic, urging people my age to get out and give where they can.

The problem is, though, that most my age are at their limit. They're tired, stressed, and work a lot.

The numbers don't lie, and net worth, of course, increases with age.

The average net worth in Canada for those between 35 and 45 is double the average net worth of 35 and under.

And it doubles again for those who are 65 and older.

All of the Gen Z-ers and Millennials I know that live here are here because they love it, not because it's easy.

Some have families, some don't, but all work hard to make ends meet.

Some are spending thousands on post-secondary school, some have mortgages to pay (if they're lucky to have saved enough for a down payment in this real-estate economy), plenty of others use a big chunk of their income on rent, and some live at home with family to avoid the cost of housing while they attempt to save.

Whatever savings they had from working summers and weekends in high school are long gone.

So, the young adults are working hard with visions of making a life in an expensive community.

The other problem, of course, is that we can't rely on retired generations to do all of the non-profit work.

It's also unfair and doesn't make for a balanced community. It also means younger generations aren't learning from these organizations and helping them grow.

"It's important to be part of the community, and it's good for your soul and mental health," said Waller, and he's right.

But truly, I don't know what the answer is. There's no quick-fix, "Tell the kids to get out and volunteer," solution.

How can we ask generations that are burnt out to give more? And how can we ask aging generations to work extra hard to pick up the slack?

In a balanced world, housing, food, and other necessities would be affordable and abundant, and workplaces would have every position filled.

Everyone would be doing 35-40 hours of work a week without the stress of money.

We'd all have more time and energy to put good, unpaid work into the community.

But we live here and now. So what's the answer?

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A raven watches from above. /Photo by Tammy Nash

Nurtured

Tales from the great

lynda shadbolt

Green meadow

I LOVE WINTER. I especially love being out in the woods walking my dog and snowshoeing or skiing.

My husband loves to go ice fishing, build outdoor fires, curl, and look for winter birds. To be in the silence and the quiet and the beauty of winter fills both of our souls.

Someone said to me recently that it is "survival of the nurtured." We all need to be nurtured and nourished at such a deep level so that we can show up in our lives and live our purpose whether that involves parenting, caregiving, working, volunteering or being a good neighbour or spouse.

In Traditional Chinese Medicine, which is where we get practices like acupuncture, shiatsu, tai chi and qigong, they teach that every season has its own very specific patterns of energy and vibration.

In winter the earth is quiet. All the bulbs are nestled into the earth. All the perennial seeds are tucked into the earth.

The trees have lost their leaves and animals are hibernating. Winter is considered to be a "yin" season. A season of creating time to deeply nurture ourselves.

The days are shorter and the nights are longer. If we let our personal energy follow the energy of winter, we create periods of deep rest for ourselves.

We create time and space for some quiet, stillness, restoration and nurturing.

We dig out candles and perhaps have some candlelit dinners, Or take a nap. Or cozy in with a good book. Or sit by the window and have a cup of tea and take in the quiet beauty that is around us. Or dig out some art supplies and do some journalling or creating. We slow down.

The idea is that we align our bodies with the natural rhythm of winter, and when we embrace the quiet and the dark and we rest, we will feel nourished.

And then when the more yang-like seasons of spring and summer arrive, we are ready to be more active and embrace the longer days, the warmer weather and the natural inclination to want to be out more.

So of course we want to enjoy our winter activities and our hobbies that we do at this time of year, we just want to balance it with some time for whatever nourishes you. Whatever practices make you feel steady in your body, clear in your mind and open in your heart.

There are so many great things to do in our county and of course you want to take advantage of them. There are choirs singing. There are places to dance and perform and create. There are so many winter activities.

We live in a place where the opportunities are endless. I am just suggesting that you create a good balance between being and doing in the winter.

We all have to manage our own health and well being and what works for one person doesn't work for another. We all have unique circumstances that we are navigating in our lives.

We all want to feel nurtured and nourished.

points of view

Loon Tales

steve galea

Going loopy

LAST WEEK, I was part of a snowshoeing expedition traversing an area just south of the arctic circle called the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve.

Like all sub-arctic expeditions, this one was filled with challenges, harrowing ordeals, and at least three mutinies. The names have been changed to protect the innocent – so, for the purpose of this story, I will refer to myself as Jasper. Editor Vivian Collings will be referred to as V, but only because she wants me to keep the word count down, but said nothing about letters.

Here then is our tale, as recorded in my expeditionary journal, in crayon.

10:30 am: We arrive. V, who has assumed the role of expeditionary leader and group know-it-all has suggested that referring to this as a sub-arctic landscape is "a stretch." The trees and parking lot, she says, should have been my first clue. This worries me. It is far too early in the expedition for denial.

10:40 am: We ascend the long road toward the trailhead. I suggest that we should take the time to stop, enjoy our surroundings, and wheeze.

10:41 am: V laughs, tells me I do a great impression of nearly passing out, and continues to the top without once whimpering, as is the custom of my people.

10:42 am: We encounter a sign proclaiming, "There is no poop fairy." I think, "If that's true, who is leaving the coins under my pillow?"

10:50 am: The expedition reaches a point where I deem all hope is lost – a place V calls the start. She dons tiny sized snowshoes that manage to keep her atop the snow. My snowshoes, though the size of dogsleds, appear to be broken, causing me to sink deeply into the snow with each step. I also begin to suspect V is hogging all the firm snow.

10:53 am: I collect the expedition's first snow-core samples. V points out that my way of collecting them – up the nostrils after falling face first – is unconventional. Nevertheless, I confirm what we theorized. The snow is indeed crusty and cold.

10:59: I finally get up.

11:23: I catch up to V who is waiting seven metres up the trail.

11:24: I point out to V that I would be amenable to her leaving me here till spring, though I am not sure she heard me correctly as she does not speak Wheezish.

11:25 to 11:59: V walks along atop the snow like a *Lord of the Rings* elf. I prefer the lesser-known stop, drop, and roll method. At one point, V notices this and lauds me for performing a particularly inspired "barrel roll."

"You think I moved with the grace and agility of a stunt plane?" I ask.

She nods, but her eyes say "barrel."

12:00: V appears physically unaffected by the ordeal, yet every time we run into a trail sign, she inexplicably stops and studies the "in case of emergency dial 9-1-1" sign.

Between wheezes, I conclude the expedition is finally wearing her down.

12:45: I tell V that I believe we are traveling in a circle. She reminds me that we are following the red loop. Again, the denial.

12:53: V thinks it a good idea to stop and stretch. She touches her toes to extend her lower back. My attempt at toe-touching initiates a prolonged downhill tumble towards an immovable tree. The experience comes dangerously close to making me wish the sign about the Poop Fairy was wrong.

12:54: V says she is hearing strange Keebler-elf-like voices. I stop talking, and hope that the effects of my hard landing will eventually subside.

2:00 pm: After another hour of descending and ascending, we both agree that Saskatchewan is highly under-rated.

2:05 pm: We finally reach where the trail ends and life without snowshoes begins. There is the sound of much rejoicing – from V and from what sounds like a Keebler-elf named Jasper.

pic *of the* past

On Nov. 24, 1976 this was the front page photo of the Haliburton County Echo. The Haliburton Beaconbrook Midgets opened up on Little Britain and came up with a 17-3 win in the game played the previous Saturday night at the Dysart Arena. The big guns for the Midgets were Rod Consack and Bernie Nicholls with 10 points each.

letters to the editor

Thanks for an inspiring event

To the Editor,

On Saturday, Jan. 27 we had the good fortune to host a sold out conference put on by Aging Together as Community. The conference, held at the Pinestone Resort, was entitled Inspiring Creativity and Empowering Change and over 165 people attended. It was informative, inspiring and thoroughly engaging. There were a number of excellent speakers on various topics and from various generations, from teens to more elderly folks as well. The presenters were both local and from other parts of Ontario and Canada.

The biggest disappointment for us was the lack of attendance from local politicians. Councillors from all four municipalities and the County were invited. Only one Councillor responded and registered and one other Councillor arrived without registering. The purpose of registering, of course, is to keep track of numbers to meet fire regulations and to plan the number of lunches needed. All other Councillors, to my knowledge, were mute. I should note that our MP, MPP and the leader of the provincial NDP, Marit Stiles, and the Leader of the Green Party, Mike Schreiner, all responded.

This would have been an amazing opportunity for our local Councillors to engage with the community on these important issues. This truly makes us wonder, and worry, about the level of community engagement from our representatives.

Thanks to all those that made this fantastic event possible.

Greg J. Roe
On behalf of the Aging Together as Community Steering Committee

Visible market wanted

To the Editor,

Regarding last week's *Haliburton Echo* report on the ongoing saga that is the Dysart et al Council seemingly pitted against the Haliburton County Farmers Market Association (HCFMA), when might our elected authorities start listening to the very people who elected them? Haliburton wants a visible, well attended, busy and profitable Farmers Market… full stop. This has been demonstrated for the past 14 years! The Farmers Market is a seasonal attraction like the Arts and Crafts Festival, and the Rotary Music in the Park Tuesday evening concerts. For those of us who have been fortunate enough to travel, we know that Market Day in so many societies all over the world is celebrated. They become the community's focal point for the day. They can be boisterous and a bit chaotic, filling the air with wonderful aromas and the sounds of commerce and visiting and buskers. I strongly suggest to Council that they start seeing the Farmers Market for what it really is and for what it really can be and they can begin by relocating the market to its rightful place in Head Lake Park and withdrawing any punitive financial conditions.

Sean Pennylegion
Haliburton

Additional letter to editor on page 8

Crossword brought to you by

Ken Barry
Broker
705-754-5280
ken@kenbarry.com

Jacquie Barry
Realtor®
705-457-0652
jacquie@kenbarry.com

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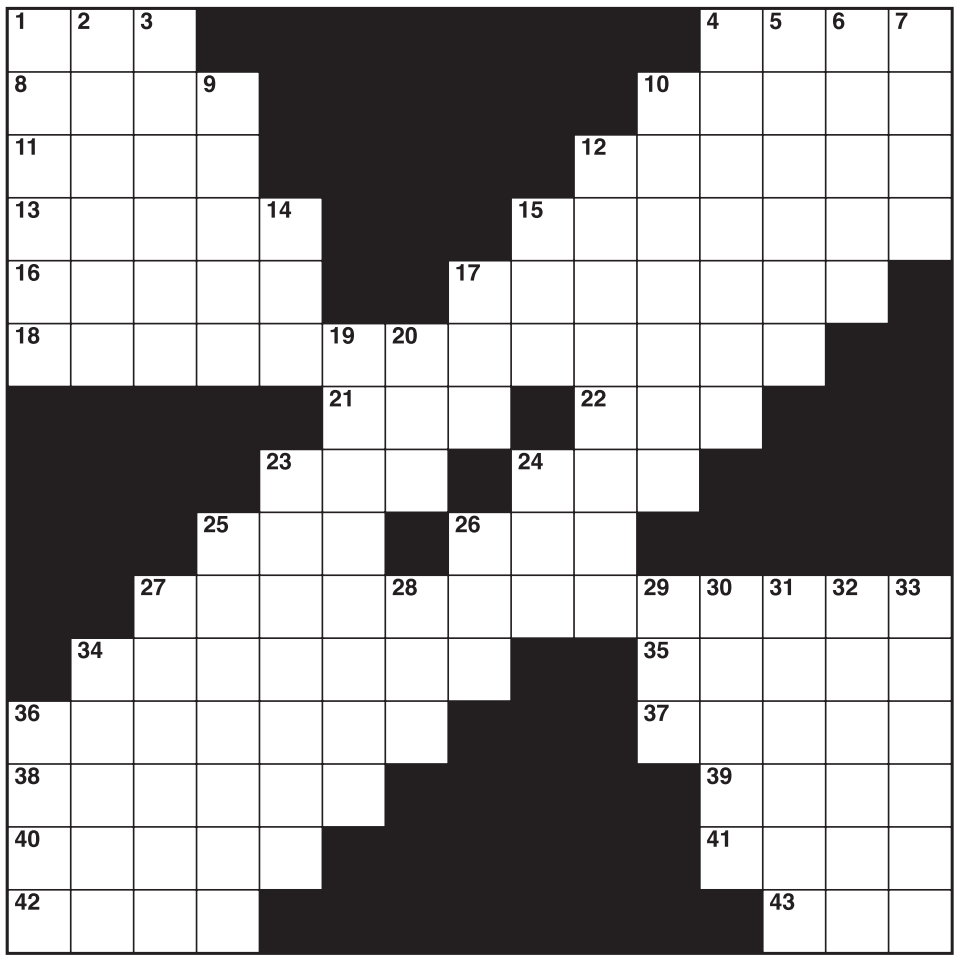


CLUES ACROSS
1. One point south of due east
4. Coagulated blood
8. Fortifying ditch
10. Devotee of Hinduism
11. Trunk of a tree
12. Bank note
13. Capital of Guam
15. Study again
16. Covered with hoarfrost
17. Opening
18. Legendary Rolling Stone
21. Stray
22. Computer storing system
23. Signal
24. Pitching statistic
25. Human being
26. Malaysian isthmus
27. The "Blonde Bombshell"
34. A gland
35. Bluish greens
36. Endangered
37. Three-dimensional
38. In a way, precipitated
39. God associated with dissolution
40. Blemished
41. Flow or leak slowly
42. Disco legends The Bee __
43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN
1. A way to board
2. Get down
3. Highly seasoned sausage
4. First day of month
5. Eurasian shrubs
6. The organ that bears the ovules of a flower
7. Small lake
9. Belief
10. Sunrooms
12. Metric weight unit
14. Vasopressin
15. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
17. One-time family room staple
19. Got back together
20. Anger
23. Sang merrily
24. Sea eagle
25. Military men
26. Kilo yard (abbr.)
27. Found in the sea
28. Protects from weather
29. Type of medicine
30. City along the Rhine
31. Animal disease
32. Martini ingredients
33. Get away
34. Lack of disunity
36. One-time European Commission officer

Answers on page 13

letters to the editor

Market a treasured asset to community

from page 7

What, exactly, am I missing Murray?

I've been reading a lot about The Haliburton Farmers' Market in *The Echo* over the past few months, and I'm hopeful that our mayor can "defuzzify my mudification", as former MacLean's Magazine columnist Alan Fotheringham used to say.

Which part have I got wrong, Mr. Mayor?

Help me out… is it:

1. That The Haliburton Farmers' Market has been bringing a significant economic benefit to the entire village of Haliburton every Tuesday, six months yearly, for 11 summers?

2. That The Haliburton Farmers' Market has been bringing wonderful and greatly-appreciated farm products to Haliburton residents and tourists for 11 summers?

3. That The Haliburton Farmers' Market has been allowing local farmers and artists (i.e. businesses) to sell the fruits (and vegetables) of their labour for 11 summers?

4. That every Tuesday afternoon, from May to October for 11 summers, The Haliburton Farmers' Market has been raising the village's community spirit to soaring new heights?

5. That The Haliburton Farmers' Market has been a defining part of what it means to be a rural, tourist-based community, thereby greatly enriching what the village of Haliburton represents, for 11 summers?

In summary, it appears to be abundantly clear that The Haliburton Farmers' Market is not a resource-sucking profit-machine, but a treasured asset to this community... yes, for 11 summers!

So, whaddya say, ya think we can treat'em that way Murray?

René Benoit,
Haliburton

David Newland to be next speaker for Telling our Stories

"In Search of Lost Trees" is a folk song cycle, created and performed by singer-songwriter and storyteller David Newland. In the summer of 2023, David and his 11-year-old son travelled to Northern Ontario, looking for trees he had planted as a tree-planter in the early 1990s. On Wednesday, Feb. 14, the Speakers Series is thrilled to present David and the tale of the journey as it unfolds in stories, songs, and images, asking "what it means to live in this time of tremendous change?"

David Newland is a writer, musician and scholar and he travels widely from coast to coast to coast "making Canada better known to Canadians and the world."

The Speakers Series happens on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 – 9 p.m. at the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association Fish Hatchery. Admission is $15/person payable (cash) at the door.

Submitted

Work begins to replace Redstone Brook Bridge

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Dysart is turning to familiar engineers for more bridge work.

Township council retained Tulloch Engineering for work to replace the Redstone Brook Bridge. The work will cost $108,500 plus taxes.

The existing bridge will be replaced with a steel modular bridge similar to that temporarily installed on Koshlong Lake Road.

Rob Camelon, the township's public works director, said the replacement of the Redstone Brook Bridge is included in the 2024 budget for an estimated expense of $1.35-million and associated costs will be debentured over 40 years.

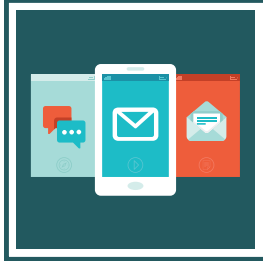
"Tulloch has done some bridge work for us over the years," he said. "They replaced the bridge deck on the Paddy's Bay Bridge, the Coleman Lake Road Bridge, and they were involved in the emergency bridge placement at Koshlong (Lake Bridge)."

Township bridges have to be inspected every two years. And it was through the course of regular inspection that staff noticed a broken timber girder on the Koshlong Lake Bridge in November 2022.

Tulloch was also the only outfit to bid on the 2022 feasibility study for the Red Stone Brook Bridge replacement.

Camelon said Tulloch Engineering has been working on Dysart bridge projects since 2016 and includes biennial inspection, deck replacements.

The upset lump sum engineering fee equates to 8.7 per cent of the estimated replacement cost of the bridge and will be included in the debenture, he said.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
vivian@haliburtonpress.com

Raising the roof with Razz

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Staff Reporter

The Merry Marching Band will be making their Haliburton County debut on Feb. 11 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Centre. Tickets are available at www.razzamataz.ca. /Photo submitted

Get ready, Haliburton County, it's about to get loud.

The Merry Marching Band are making their way from Quebec on Feb. 11 to grace the stage at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion with Razzamataz Kids' shows. "This is an incredible musical clownish performance. The show features clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba and drums," said Nicole Stewart, the chair for Razz.

Featuring some delightfully quirky and colourful characters, the Merry Marching Band portrays the story of exploring the world through music, sounds, and people. The concept is designed for a younger audience, with an educational component of incorporating geography and world music. The performers intend to introduce the young audience to the beauty of brass instruments and percussion, while taking them on a journey through clown arts.

"These are award winning performers," said Stewart, "and I really think that people will love the humour, clowning and music that accompanies the Merry Marching Band's journey around, and out of this world."

If you're not able to make the performance on Feb. 11, Razzamataz will be hosting a workshop on Feb. 11 at the Haliburton School of Art and Design, featuring band members who will provide the opportunity for kids to explore wind and percussion instruments. The hour-long workshop is designed for ages five and up, and will kick off at 11 A.M.

Razzamataz continues to seek out performances that will leave local audiences wowed, with the next show slated for March 24, and featuring two-time Canadian Magic Champion, Eric Le Clerc, who will be putting on "a fun and feel good magic show," said Stewart.

The following show is set for April 27, where Razz will present the Dancers of Damelahamid with the Indigenous Dance performance, Spirit and Tradition. This show includes dramatic dance, intricate masks and elaborate regalia. Through drumming, soundscape and projected imagery, audiences will find themselves immersed in the vibrant Indigenous culture of the British Columbia Northwest Coast.

Tickets can be purchased at the door, but to buy in advance, visit www.razzamataz.ca.

HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Home Game

HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES VS

Saturday, Feb. 10 - 4 p.m.

Upcoming Home Games

MISSISSAUGA CHARGERS
Tuesday, Feb. 13
7 p.m.

TRENTON GOLDEN HAWKS
Saturday, Feb. 17
4 p.m.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena
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WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

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Lisa Mercer
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- Low maintenance living with a new 4500L septic, drilled well, in floor heating throughout the entire home and full 7 year Tarion Home Warranty
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Cheryl Smith
Sales Representative
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info@cherylsmithremax
cherylsmithremax.com

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Vince Duchene
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705-457-0046
www.vinceduchene.ca

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- .17ac, mostly level in town lot
- Now a Church; zoned Institutional
- Ample parking & wheel chair access
- May require rezoning depending
- Yr-rnd acc; drilled well/hold tank
- Excellent locale; Being sold AS-IS

Rick Forget
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

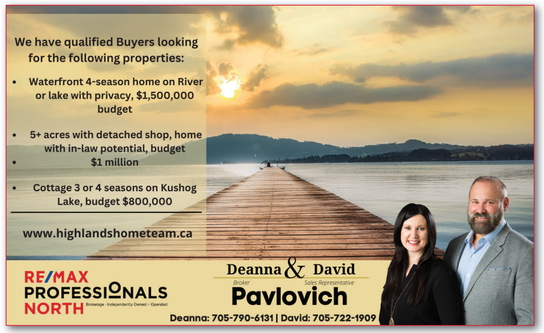
$799,900

- Haliburton in-town home
- 3 bedroom plus den and office
- 4 bath
- Beautifully renovated
- Forced air propane furnace
- Central air
- Includes adjacent lot

Number 2 Team in Haliburton County for 2023

Data pulled from the Ranking Reports program from ITSO on the Lakelands Association Of Realtors Board on January 16, 2024.

Parish & Strano
Sales Representatives/Broker*
John Parish 705-457-5485
Jeff Strano 705-761-7629
Andrea Strano* 705-457-5984
Marj Parish 705-455-2211


We have qualified Buyers looking for the following properties:
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5+ acres with detached shop, home with in-law potential, budget $1 million
Cottage 3 or 4 seasons on Kushog Lake, budget $800,000
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705.455.7899
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SPACIOUS CONDO $499,000

Spacious 1227 sq. ft, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Conveniently located in the Heart of Haliburton. Private lake view balcony! Inground heated garage with parking spot, storage locker. foyer, utility/in-suite laundry. Open concept kitchen/eating/ living room. This unit has radiant in-floor heating, ICF construction, HRV system, ductless A/C.

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

BEER LAKE $289,000

- Beautiful quiet lake, west of Minden
- 900 ft of shoreline, 5.9 acres
- Smooth rocky point with pines
- Gentle lot well treed, gorgeous sunsets
- Lightly developed lake with balance of shoreline crown
- 1000's of acres of crown to the west
- Rough 4x4 road to lot

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

$2,900,000

222 acres of rolling Canadian Shield• Sparkling waters of both Cedar & Otter Lakes• Great opportunity • Gorgeous natural views where wildlife abounds.• Draft Plan available for 12 multi-acre lots• Easy 2-hour drive from GTA with year round access.

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Broker 705-754-5280
Jacquie Barry
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Lynda Litwin
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- 1.2 Acre Lot
- Driveway entrance already in place
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- Minutes from West Guilford, Carnarvon and Haliburton
- Close to Sir Sams, golf courses and restaurants

Kelly Mercer
Broker
705-455-7500
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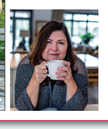
PAUDASH LAKE $999,999

- 1071 Norwester Rd
- 2 Ac w/ 147 ft frtg
- Finished Bsmt w/ walkout
- 3 Bed / 1 Bath



Cheryl Bolger
Sales Representative
705-306-9450
cheryl@cherylbolger.ca

GREAT COMMUNITY $598,500

Moments from town is this lovely, well-built home with attached garage. Hardwood floors gleam throughout. The spacious sunroom and screened porch both lead to a level backyard and the lower level of the house is set up nicely for guests with their own sleeping area, washroom and dining area. This listing is worth checking out.

Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
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DATA PULLED FROM THE RANKING REPORTS PROGRAM FROM ITSO ON THE LAKELANDS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS BOARD ON JANUARY 16, 2024.
*BROKERAGE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED.

Off to the races

A driver waves during his race at the Minden Ice Races hosted by the Minden Kin Club on Saturday, Jan. 3 at the Minden Fairgrounds. The races run for six weeks, weather permitting. /TIM YANO Special to the *Echo*

HSF 2024
Live Theatre!
Highlands Summer Festival

2024 Auditions Continue

The Highlands Summer Festival is holding auditions for the following 2024 productions:

- **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (a musical)**
- **The Miracle Worker**
- **The Birds & the Bees**

Saturday, February 10 from 10 a.m.
& Sunday, February 11 from 12:30 p.m.

at **St. George's Anglican Church**
617 Mountain Street, Haliburton

Character descriptions and other important details, including how to register, can be found in the audition package, linked from the HSF home page at **www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca**

Those interested can contact Melissa Stephens at 705 455-2366 or melistep@gmail.com

February, 15 at 7 p.m.

Downtown Haliburton's BIA: Annual General Meeting

DOWNTOWN HALIBURTON

BIA Members are welcome to join us for the Annual General Meeting in the Meeting Room at the Dysart et al municipal building (135 Maple Ave)

THOSE OTHER movies MOVIE NIGHTS THOSE OTHER movies

Thursday, February 8, BlackBerry

Biopic comedy/drama: Jay Baruchel

Rated R for coarse language

$10 cash only

4:15 and 7:15 pm Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.

DOC(k) Day: April 13

705-457-0428 www.ThoseOtherMovies.com

Storm under 13 make history

MIKE GERVAIS

Special to the Echo

For the first time in the history of the Highland Storm, the International Silver Stick Trophy is coming to rest in the Haliburton Highlands. The Walker's Heating and Cooling U13 Rep Team swept into Forest, Ontario, to bring home Silver Stick glory and win one of North America's most prominent minor hockey tournaments.

The team secured the elusive title with a 4-0 victory over the Arran-Elderslie Ice-Dogs. The team used their speed and high-pressure play to dominate the game and erase any doubt over who the champions would be. Goals by Travis Rowe (2), Chase Kerr and Henry Neilson fueled the victory. Neilson and Rowe were joined by Hawksley Dobbins (F) and Blake Hutchinson (G) in being named players of the game.

The victory comes on the heels of an undefeated preliminary round with wins over four other Regional Champions - the Frontenac Flyers, West Niagara Flying Aces, Dresden Jr Ice Kings and the Columbus Blue Jackets. The Storm U13s also went undefeated in their Silver Stick Regional tournament to finish the multi-level tournament 9-0.

This victory provides redemption to head coach Scott Neilson, who exited last year's International contest with a narrow loss in the semi-finals. Coaches James Reilly, Shawn Walker, and trainer Marcus Rowe supported Neilson in preparing the small yet speedy squad. Manager Cynthia Hutchinson ensured the team had everything they needed leading to the tournament to remove distractions and provide focus.

All team members served a critical role in the victories and stepped up to forecheck, backcheck, set up goals or stand ready to move into a more significant role if needed. Players included Hudson Meyer (D), Levi Rowe (D), Tyler Hughes (D), Cruise Neave (F), Lyla Degeer (F), Linus Gervais (F), Marshall Heasman (G), Jaxon Hurd (F) and Brycen Harrison (F).

The 2024 International Silver Stick banners will hang in the Minden and Haliburton arenas to represent memories of a lifetime for the team. Go Storm!

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION TO PURCHASE AN ORIGINAL ALLOWANCE FOR ROAD MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

DATE: February 27, 2024
TIME: Any person who wishes to address Council should contact the Planning Department for a delegation time.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, Municipal Office, 135 Maple Ave., Haliburton, Ontario, or virtually via Zoom.

APPLICATION:
The Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al has, by resolution, declared the following parcel of land to be surplus.

Applicant: Walker
Location: The Road Allowance described as the 20 foot lane and Part of the Road Allowance for Dean Court, on Plan of Subdivision 525, in Part Lot 19, Concession 7, in the Geographic Township of Dysart, as shown on the survey prepared by H. Curry Bishop dated August 24, 1964.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al proposes to consider and if deemed appropriate enact at its meeting as noted above, a by-law to close, stop-up and convey the portion of road allowance described above.

BEFORE PASSING the said by-law, the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al shall at its meeting to be held as noted above, hear in person or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be affected by the said by-law.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION is available for review from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular offices hours (8:30 am. to 4:30 pm. Monday to Friday).

DATED at the Township of Dysart, this 5th day of February 2024.

Jeff Iles
Director of Planning and Land Information

Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Ave., P.O. Box 389,
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
Telephone: (705) 457-1740
Email: info@dysartetal.ca
Website: www.dysartetal.ca

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT
TO ZONING BY-LAW 2005-120 OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

- **DATE:** **Tuesday, February 27, 2024**
- **TIME:** **9:05 AM**
- **LOCATION:** **TAKE NOTICE THAT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE 135 MAPLE AVENUE, HALIBURTON, ONTARIO AND IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT USING ZOOM**

APPLICATIONS:

Lands of DeMarco
(File Nos.: D14-ZB-2023-010)

Purpose and Effect: Council will consider this request and if deemed appropriate pass an amending by-law to remove the said holding symbol from By-law 2022-45.

Application to amend the Zoning By-law: The proposed by-law would change the zoning from Waterfront Residential Type 3L (H-WR3L) zone with holding provision to Waterfront Residential Type 3L (WR3L) zone.

Location: Lots 15 to 16, Concession 4, island in the Geographic Township of Havelock, now in the Municipality of Dysart et al.

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Municipal Clerk at mbishop@dysartetal.ca.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MATTER INCLUDING INFORMATION ABOUT APPEAL RIGHTS: Contact the Planning and Land Information Department by appointment during regular office hours (8:30 A.M-4:30 P.M, Monday to Friday), or by contacting Kris Orsan, Manager of Planning at korsan@dysartetal.ca.

Dated at the Township of Dysart, this 6th day of February 2024.

Kris Orsan, CPT,
Manager of Planning
Planning and Land Information
Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
Phone: 705-457-1740 ext. 626
E-mail: korsan@dysartetal.ca

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Ingoldsby United Church Closes, Amalgamating with Haliburton United

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Staff Reporter

It is with a heavy heart to say that Ingoldsby United Church held its last service on Dec. 31, 2023.

"Welcome everybody, thank you for coming today," opened Rev. Harry Morgan, "it's nice to have a full church on this, our last day." Ingoldsby United Church's last sermon was filled with high spirits, despite the church's uncertain future.

The United Church was built in 1928, closing just four years shy of the 100th anniversary.

"This is the last Sunday of this church's long history. Almost a hundred years of service to the Lord and the community." says Rev. Morgan solemnly.

"Some of us have been shedding a few tears about this end of an era here. Sort of, many things are beyond our control I think. We don't know. The world has changed a lot," said Rev. Morgan, "the inclination for people to go to churches and participate in church is just not what it was."

"One thing to remember is when this was built back in 1928, there weren't a lot of people with cars. It was still the horse and buggy days. My Mum was 2 then. In her early days, cars were few and far between." Rev. Morgan explained that the churches were built in the area without transportation in mind. Circuit riders would ride on horseback from church to church.

The message of the Dec. 31st sermon was Changin' Times. Rev. Morgan refers to the wise words of Bob Dylan's *The Times They Are a-Changin'*. During his sermon, Morgan discussed topics such as climate change and the changing political climates across the world. All of these, he says, have contributed to the reduction of church attendance across Canada. Rev. Morgan estimates roughly 10 to 20 per cent of people attend in recent years.

Ingoldsby United churchs stands empty after it's final sermon on Dec. 31, 2023. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

"We had 5-7 people attending, which is kind of what we ended with," recollects Rev. Morgan says with a laugh. When Rev. Morgan began with the Haliburton pastoral Charge in 1992, numbers were also dwindling. Later, the maximum attendance of Ingoldsby United grew to around 25 people. The church's congregation fluctuated throughout the years but was greatly appreciated by the community, with the building even acting as the town's community centre.

In recent years, the COVID-19 pandemic put an end to the church's Sunday school program, and Morgan says that the church tried its best to maintain attendance while adhering to the safety procedures during the pandemic. While not the sole culprit, Rev.Morgan says it certainly accelerated the decision to sell Ingoldsby United Church.

"It's the social trends of people not participating in church. In the church world, we call it postmodernism, or post christendom," explains Rev. Morgan.

As of January 1st, 2024, the congregation of Ingoldsby United Church has amalgamated with Haliburton United Church.

Elder Karen from the Haliburton United Church took the podium to welcome the congregation of Ingoldsby United to Haliburton United with open hearts and open arms.

"I can't imagine not having your church in your community, but I know God is a big, big God, and he covers all communities and we sincerely welcome everybody from this church to Haliburton United," says Karen warmly, "I can't express it more wholeheartedly than what our Jesus said was to come. So please come and if you need a way to get there, you may contact the church."

When asked about his thoughts of the last sermon, Rev. Morgan recalls it as being bittersweet.

"I enjoyed it. It was exciting to have 60 people there that day. After lunch, everyone left except the Ingoldsby people. So I saw myself sobbing on the way home. It's a grieving process. It's hitting them pretty hard."

Rev. Morgan took great joy in ringing Ingoldsby United's bell every morning at 8:45 a.m., especially in the summer months when he knew cottagers would be woken up to the call of their congregation. He hopes that the final sermon will bring folks in the community closure.

"The building will be sold. It will be listed very soon." said Rev. Morgan, in regard to the future of Ingoldsby United Church. Proceeds from the sale will pay for things such as utilities, upkeep costs, and real estate fees. A percentage of funds will help support the Haliburton Pastoral Charge.

Rev. Morgan says that there are intentions of having a decommission service after the spring to include seasonal visitors of Ingoldsby United Church, but a date has yet to be determined.

There is still hope for Ingoldsby United Church to remain a part of the community. In the 1990s to early 2000's, the iconic 12 Mile Lake Church dwindled in numbers while the trustees of Zion United and members of the Chambers family maintained the church. In 2009, the Township of Minden Hills purchased 12 Mile Lake Church and partnered with Friends of 12 Mile Lake Church to provide care and maintenance. In November of 2021, The Country Bakery moved into the former Zion United Church and now uses the former house of worship as their bakery and retail space.

Rev. Morgan attests the long history of the church to Jesus Christ and through the support of the local community.

Fore!
Golfers had the chance to practice their swing at the Pinestone Resort simulator, put on by the Haliburton Golf Centre, for the first Friday Night Scramble of the year on Friday, Feb. 2. Partnered with Boshkung Brewing, the Friday Night Scramble features a two-person scramble format with plenty of prizes to win. Email haliburtongolfcentre@outlook.com to register. /TIM YANO Special to the *Echo*

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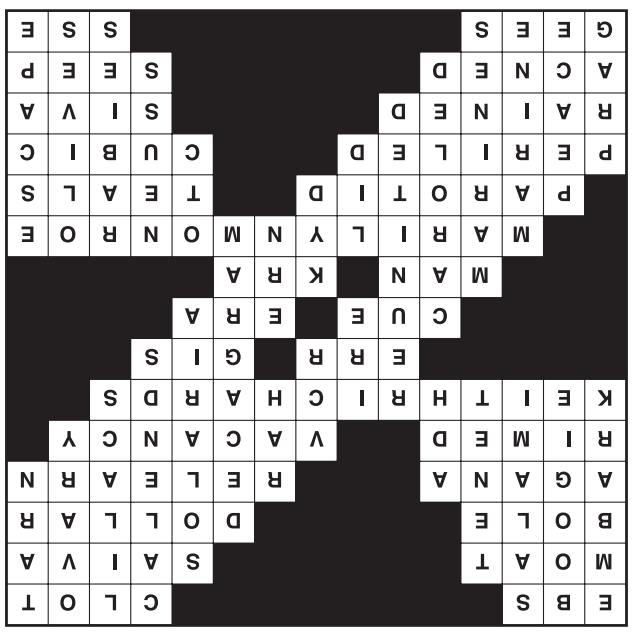

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650 OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Carol Bradimore (nee Cruikshanks)

It is with great sadness that the family of Carol Bradimore (nee Cruikshanks) shares her passing, in her 86th year at the Haliburton Hospital on the 25th of January, 2024.

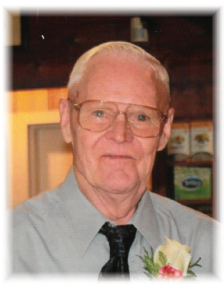
Beloved wife of the late Richard Bradimore. Predeceased by her parents Raymond and Maymie Cruikshanks. Loving mother of Cara (Peer) and Kelly (Mark). Proud grandmother of Jesse (Emma) and Erin (Riley). Cherished sister of Gladys (Chris). Predeceased by siblings Laverne (Eileen), Irene, Royce (Elke), Pearl, Irwin, Jimmy, Thelma (Gord), Sherman and Frankie.

Lovingly remembered by many sisters and brothers in-law: Cec, Ivan, Thelma, Eleanor, Betty Ann, Jeanette and Leonard (Linda) and will be greatly missed by many nieces, nephews and friends.

Carol was generous and kind to everyone she met and readily put the needs of others before her own. She cherished all the gatherings and special events with family and friends. She loved visits with everyone who stopped by her home where the coffee and tea pot were always on for a welcomed chat.

A memorial service was held Saturday, February 3rd at Thornton Funeral Centre, Oshawa. Internment will be held in the Spring at St. Stephen's Anglican Church Cemetery, Algonquin Highlands (Haliburton County).

650 OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of

Junior Elwood Barry

Passed away peacefully at Extendicare, Haliburton on January 27, 2024 in his 92nd year.

Beloved husband of Lois. Dear father of Elwood and his wife Joanne, Craig and Kim. Loving grandpa of Janice (Richard), Devon (Katie), and predeceased by Kyle and great grandpa of Hannah, Louis, Lila and Austin. Dear brother of Mervin (Lois), Gwen (Murray Bacon – deceased) and predeceased by Della, Myrtle and Joyce. Dear brother-in-law of Beverly, Marlin and Verne, Karl and Terry, Bernice and Keith, predeceased by Morgan, Murray, Bernard, Allan and Linda. Lovingly remembered by the Barry and Upton families. The Barry family would like to thank everyone at the Extendicare for the care and love given over the years.

Friends were invited to the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Thursday February 1st, 2024 at 11:00am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Junior's Life at 1:00pm. Reception followed in the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Spring Interment at Maple Lake Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to Extendicare Proud Pioneers (cheques only) would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of

Sherman Cruikshanks

Peacefully passed away at the Lakeridge Health Ajax Pickering Hospital on Friday, January 26, 2024 at the age of 81.

Beloved husband of Betty-Ann; and was predeceased by his wife lla (nee Harrison). Loving father of Tammy and Angela Cruikshanks. Sherman is survived by his sister Gladys (Chris) Norris. Predeceased by his parents Raymond and Maymie Cruikshanks and siblings Laverne (Eileen), Irene, Royce (Elke), Pearl, Irwin, Jimmy, Thelma (Gord), Carol (Richard) and Frankie.

Lovingly remembered by many sisters and brothers in-law: Cec, Ivan, Thelma, Eleanor and Jeanette and will be greatly missed by many nieces, nephews and friends. Sherman's great sense of humor and generous nature will be fondly remembered by all.

A memorial service and interment was held on Monday, February 5th at Mount Lawn Funeral Home & Cemetery in Oshawa.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

RESTAURANTS BUTT OUT
As restaurants give non-smokers a breath of fresh air, health unit seeks county ban

PUSHING THE ENVELOPE
Performance of Letters I Didn't Send bodes well for future of Northern Lights Pavilion

BIRD SPECIES UP
The annual Minden Christmas Bird Count yielded some fascinating sightings

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Tuesday, January 21, 2003
Vol. 120 No. 7
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Canoe route rules:

Funding allows Frost Centre group to better protect environment

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Canoeists who pull ashore at a campsite in the Frost Centre this summer may find there are more rules but the campsites will be cleaner and less likely to be sources of pollution.

With a grant from provincial government and a land use permit from Algonquin Highlands, the Haliburton Highlands Water Trails Committee is embarking on a two-year project to manage the dozens of campsites at the province's 24,000-hectare property south of Dorset.

The first step was to hire Mark Coleman as the project co-ordinator to oversee how the $200,000 from Ontario Living Legacy is spent. The committee received $50,000 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2002 and $150,000 for the next fiscal year. On Thursday, Algonquin Highlands council gave it the authority it needs to spend the money. The land use permit agreement will be forwarded to the municipality as soon as possible, the last piece of red tape needed.

Although canoeists will continue to be able to use the campsites for free, and not have to reserve spaces, they will have to comply with new rules about how many campers are allowed per site as posted on new signs.

For its part, the committee will improve the existing rudimenta-

See **Committee** *page 13*

DARREN LUM/Echo

Winter warmth
Dakota Harris-Saxby, a John D. Hodgson Elementary School student, smiles, barely noticing the frigid weather as she slides down a playground set during the lunch hour recess. Friends Victoria Snow and Jasmin Purnell ready themselves to take a ride down the slide. The entire province has been gripped in the throngs of a cold weather snap for the last month.

Waterfront property demand heats up real estate market

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

A shortage of property on the Haliburton market means real estate agents have more buyers than sellers.

John Parish, a Bowes and Cocks agent, says 2002 was one of the best years in his memory for sales and activity in the Highlands. He says they are running into a shortage of "product" though and not just waterfront either.

"It's still manageable right now but it could become a problem," says Parish.

Linda Baumgartner, Re/Max agent and incoming president of the Ontario Real Estate Association, says it has been a high-dollar volume of sales and a very prosperous year. She expects the real estate market will remain healthy for 2003 as well but is predicting prices will not continue to rise in the Highlands as they have been.

She has noticed the expected demand for residential and cottage waterfront properties but noticed in 2002 a new demand for acreages as well. She has also noticed buyers coming from a bit farther south than the usual number from the Greater Toronto Area with quite a few expressing interest from the Hamilton area.

"Percentage wise we're seeing baby boomers the most but it's the last leg of the boomers. We are working with mid-30-year-olds who are looking at future retirement properties. They're buying run down cottages, with

See **Future** *page 13*

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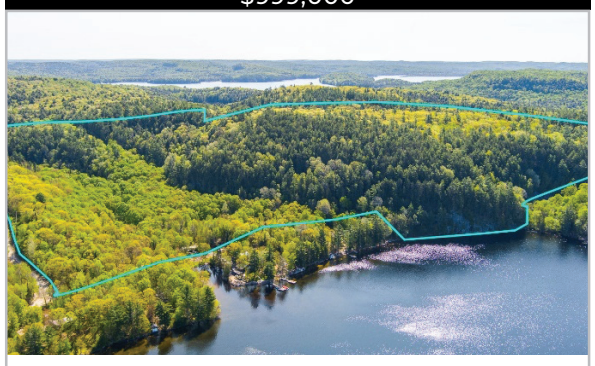

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